

Department of Energy

Richland Operations Office P.O. Box 550 Richland, Washington 99352

97-WDD-156

SEP 3 0 1997

Mr. Mike Wilson, Manager Nuclear Waste Program State of Washington Department of Ecology P.O. Box 47600 Olympia, Washington 98504-7600

Dear Mr. Wilson:

COMPLETION OF HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER (TRI-PARTY AGREEMENT) MILESTONE M-45-02B, "SUBMIT ANNUAL UPDATE OF SINGLE SHELL TANK (SST) RETRIEVAL SEQUENCE DOCUMENT FOR ECOLOGY APPROVAL"

The U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL) is providing the enclosed annual update to SST retrieval sequence in accordance with Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-45-02B.

This years update to the SST retrieval sequence is included as part of the Tank Waste Remediation System (TWRS) Operation and Utilization Plan. In addition to the waste retrieval sequence from SSTs, the TWRS Operation and Utilization Plan establishes the operating scenario and plans for delivery of feed to privatized vendors for immobilization and overall process flowsheets for Phase I and II TWRS privatization.

A special SST retrieval sequence was prepared at the request of the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) in addition to the baseline sequence. Special sequence objectives consisted of meeting privatization feed delivery requirements, retrieving wastes with high storage risk, and minimizing costs occurring before the initiation of Phase II SST retrieval planned for completion through privatized efforts. This special sequence diverged from existing Tri-Party Agreement milestones for SST retrieval compared with the baseline sequence.

RL would be pleased to brief and discuss the technical findings of this year's report with Ecology as desired.

If you have any questions, or would like to schedule a briefing, please contact me on (509) 376-6888, or Wendell R. Wrzesinski on (509) 376-6751.

Sinc@rely,

George H. Sanders, Administrator Hanford Tri-Party Agreement

WDD:WRW

Enclosure

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